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GILA COUNTY

Public Works Division

Senator Hardt Highway

On Tuesday, March 9, Highway 188, between US Highway 60 and State Route 87, officially became known as **Senator Hardt Highway**, in honor of the late, longtime Arizona Senator, A. V. "Bill" Hardt. Before becoming a significant force in State politics, Mr. Hardt was a former Globe mayor and businessman. Dedication ceremonies for the event were held that afternoon at the turnoff to the Cobre Valley Country Club just outside of Globe. In attendance and guest speakers at the event included former Arizona Governor Rose Mofford and Governor Napolitano's Rural Liaison, Brent Brown, brother to Arizona Senator Jack Brown. Mr. Brown read the proclamation from the governor's office that made the name change official effective immediately. Senator's Hardt's daughter also spoke about her father and all his accomplishments. At the conclusion of the ceremonies, Senator Hardt's widow and other family members were presented with memorial road signs lettered with the new highway name.



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Administration

Grants, grants, and more grants...Diana Jones, our Grant Writer has been extremely busy trying to prepare grants and meet deadlines.

She recently completed a grant to Arizona State Parks for an RV Park out at the Fairgrounds and she should know by September if we will be receiving funds to do that. She also did an ADEQ Grant with Sharon Radanovich for paper recycling and they should know by August if they are granted that one. She is currently working on a Community Development Block Grant for an elevator in the Payson courthouse complex, the application is due by June 1st. Also, she is working on getting the proposed trail at the Fairgrounds nominated into the Arizona State Trails System. If we get the trail into the system we can then apply later in the year for a grant from State Parks. And last but not least, we have an upcoming grant from Governor's Office of Highway Safety in which we can apply for Roadway Safety items; this application will be due Monday, April 26th.

Engineering

The survey department has been working with John Cahoon of Kenny Aerial Mapping Company in Phoenix, Arizona to establish final requirements by FEMA (Flood Emergency Management Administration) in the Tonto Basin area. After having surveyed this area with GPS to establish "up to date" survey control FEMA has agreed to conduct a new Flood Plain Study within the Tonto Basin area. Once this is complete, the residents of Tonto Basin will have highly accurate flood plain mapping limits to ensure Flood Insurance is paid by only those within the "true flood plain". This has been one of the major benefits of purchasing GPS equipment and densifying Gila County with good Cadastral Control points. FEMA will continue to study our problem areas such as Roosevelt and Young, as long as we can continue to pre-establish control that is compatible with the North American Datum of 1983-88. Most recently, County employees who volunteered March 24th & 25th while we conducted our GPS Secondary Control Project included Patsy Clayton, Vicki DeAnda, Kevin Kenney, Barbara Guthrey, Barbara Leetham, David Rogers, Joanne Zache, Terry Smith, Ignacio Godinez, Judy Esteves, Dana True, Dixie Mundy, and from our own Division we had Carlos Ozuna, Shannon Coons, Daniel Blaisdell, Eleanor Pastor, Diana Jones, Sharon Radanovich, Fletcher Petty, Gary Tamietti, Ken Doss, Tom Homan, and Rick Bunger. Also, volunteers from Cochise County included Surveyors David Southerland and Dan Eichelberger.

Solid Waste

The weekend of March 13th and 14th proved to be a busy one for the Russell Gulch Landfill employees. Cars lined up for nearly a mile to the Russell Road turnoff for the landfill free weekend. 1032 vehicles brought in a total of 372 tons of trash, with appliances, metal and building debris being the largest contributors to the tonnage.

In addition to all the trash, area residents also dropped off 815 tires, 120 car batteries, and 280 gallons of used motor oil. What a great turnout!



Consolidated Roads & Auto Equipment Shops

The Roads Department has been heavily involved with the Fairgrounds wall and parking lot project from its inception and it is still ongoing. The Castle Dome Pit has been opened after many hours of hard work, the fuel pad has been set , the liner is in place and we are hauling granite from there to the fairgrounds and to the stockpile. Many thanks to everyone who worked so hard on this lengthy project. The leak around the manhole cover on Apache in Central Heights has been repaired and the pavement replaced. Brian Jennings from the Tonto Basin crew attended the GPS training in order to work with the GPS system in that area. Randy Burkhalter, Leon Dude, JoAnn Minchew, Andy Nosie, Anna Sanchez and Melvin Warbington have completed many LTAP courses and are working on their Roads Scholar training. Brent Cline, Mike Horta and Lonny Cline recently attended the Arizona LTAP pavement Maintenance Fair held in Phoenix. As far as Roads, they are busy are patching, crack sealing and getting ready for our upcoming Chip seal project. They are still blading roads and are involved in an ongoing vegetation control project. The Tonto Basin crew has been cleaning drainages, blading roads, and installed a french drain on Stetson Drive in Gisela along with their other tasks. Also, the fuel tank at the Tonto Basin yard now has a cement pad. They surfaced Vertical Heights Road and Russell Road and bladed the new County Dirt Roads; Diamondback, Rattlesnake and Westridge roads. During the months of February and March, the Timber Region Roads Department has been working on snow removal, tree removal, routine blading, Road Safety Survey, vegetation control, and resurfacing on FSR 64 and Rim Trail. LTAP's Pavement Maintenance Class was attended by Danny Savage, Clay Brunson, Barney Branstetter, and Eddie Wisdom. Shannon Coons held training on time cards with the road crew, and Danny & Nyra attended the managers Workman's Comp training given by Emergency Services. The Timber Region Shops are approaching 1,000 days on their safety record. Austin Jones received a service award for 10 years along with Bert Sprague's 20 years of service. The shops completed their newly built tire rack, thanks to Austin Jones. And finally, we would like to welcome our new equipment mechanic, Terry Wollgast who will begin employment Monday 4/12/04. In other news, Walter Grantham from Roads recently retired on February 28, 2004 and will be missed by everyone. He was always willing to help anyone with anything and was the first Gila County employee to accumulate 1000 hours of sick leave. And did you know that at the Walk America, March of Dimes held March 13th in Globe-Miami, Randy Burkhalter was the highest money raiser for an individual - he raised a total of \$575 dollars and had the best time of 1 hr and 28 minutes. I'MAGE Award winners for March included Fletcher Petty, Gary Frantom, Anna Sanchez, Sam Arney, Michael Ochoa, Ernie Davis and Jonathan Ortega. They were all recognized for their work on the Household Hazardous Waste Collection held in November 2003.



Facilities Management

The Clerk of Court/Law Library remodel has been completed and the Clerk's office is now all moved in and they are loving it. For the past 7 weeks or so, Facilities

guys have been up in Payson building a new Recorder's office. The new office is located and is an addition to the Payson Assessor's office. Also, new storage units have been delivered and set up at the Star Valley Yard one for the Payson Sheriff's Evidence storage and another one for Elections storage.